

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/064,238
Docket NO.: 8868-US-PA

REMARKS

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6 and 14 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims in the current Office Action, and however they are objected to as being dependent upon rejected claims.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,757,385B1 to Ehrenstrale et al. ("Ehrenstrale") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,956,838 to Gillorire et al. ("Gilloire").

Claims 1-5, 7-13, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,396,3872 to Sugiyama ("Sugiyama") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,956,838 to Gillorire et al. ("Gilloire").

In response to above rejection thereto, Applicant has amended claim 1 and 9, to include the subject matter of claims 6 and 14 that had been indicated as allowable; and consequently

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canceled claims 5-6 and 13-14. As such, Applicant submits that claims 1-4, 7-12, 15 and 16 should be allowable in their now forms.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-4, 7-12, 15 and 16 are in proper condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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